

If you bought, owned or leased a 1991-2001 model year Ford Explorer, you could get benefits from a legal settlement.

PARA UNA NOTIFICACIÓN EN ESPAÑOL, LLAMAR O VISITAR NUESTRO WEBSITE

A settlement has been reached between Ford Motor Company (“Ford”) and residents of Illinois, California, Connecticut, and Texas involving 1991-2001 model year Explorers. This notice is for Illinois residents. Notice about this class action was published in Illinois in July 2004. The class action is about whether Ford misled consumers to pay more for those Explorers than they should have. The settlement provides discount certificates towards the purchase or lease of any new Ford, Lincoln, or Mercury.

If you are in the Class, you may send in a claim to ask for a certificate, or you can object to the settlement. The Superior Court of California, Sacramento County authorized this notice, and will have a hearing to decide whether to approve the settlement, so that benefits can be issued. Get a detailed notice at www.ExplorerClaims.com.

WHO’S INCLUDED?

The settlement includes certain Ford Explorer owners and lessees in four states. In Illinois, the Class includes all residents of Illinois on September 27, 2004, who purchased, owned, or leased, at any time between 1990 and September 27, 2004, Ford Explorers, model years 1991 through 2001, that are or were equipped with Firestone ATX, ATX II, or Wilderness tires.

WHAT DOES THE SETTLEMENT PROVIDE?

The settlement provides certificates for \$500 toward the purchase or lease of a new Ford Explorer or \$300 toward the purchase or lease of any other new Ford, Lincoln, or Mercury vehicle. The certificates will be valid for 12 months from the date issued. The certificates can be used in conjunction with other Ford offers and incentives, but only one certificate can be used at a time.

Also, for a period of 12 months after certificates are issued, Ford agrees to make available on its website, www.Ford.com (a) warnings that Ford provides in all Owner’s Guides for its 2007 model year sport utility vehicles regarding the importance of restraint usage by adults and children, driving practices and cargo loading practices to reduce the risk of rollover, and tire safety; (b) downloadable copies of Ford’s publication, “Driving Your SUV or Truck” (formerly referred to as “4-Wheeling With Ford”) that Ford provides with its 2007 model year sport utility vehicles; and (c) a separate publication on tire safety. Ford also will provide on its website instructions on how to obtain extra copies of 2007 Owner’s Guides in both English and Spanish. Other benefits, and more details about the settlement, can be

found in a document called the Settlement Agreement which is available at www.ExplorerClaims.com. The settlement doesn’t mean that any law was broken, and Ford denies all claims of wrongdoing in this case.

HOW CAN YOU ASK FOR A CERTIFICATE?

Simply call or go to the website to get a claim form. To get a certificate you need to fill out and send in a claim form and supporting documents postmarked no later than **April 29, 2008**.

CAN I GIVE MY CERTIFICATE AWAY?

With some limitations, you can give your certificate to someone else. On the claim form you can elect to have your certificate issued to someone else who lives in your state. After you receive your certificate you can transfer it to an immediate family member (*i.e.*, your spouse, sibling, child, or domestic partner). You can ask for the transfer by writing the Settlement Administrator at the address listed on the certificate. Please note that you may not receive any compensation for requesting that the certificate be issued in the name of another person.

WHAT ARE YOUR OTHER RIGHTS?

Residents of Illinois were already given an opportunity in earlier notices to exclude themselves from this class action. If you are an Illinois Class member who did not submit an exclusion request, you may not ask to be excluded from the settlement Class now. This means that you are legally bound by the class action and cannot sue Ford about the claims in this lawsuit ever again. You may object in writing to any part of the settlement by **April 3, 2008**. The detailed notice explains how to object.

The Court will hold a hearing in this case, known as *Ford Explorer Cases*, JCCP Nos. 4226 & 4270, on **April 15, 2008**, to consider whether to approve the settlement, and a request by Class Counsel for up to \$25,000,000, for fees, costs and expenses. As part of that request, Class Counsel will also ask for a payment ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000 for each of the Class Representatives, who helped the lawyers on behalf of the whole Class. You or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own cost, but you don’t have to. For more information, call or go to the website shown below. **PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE CLERK OR COURT.**

www.ExplorerClaims.com

1-866-833-7918